

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A card reading system, comprising:

a card housing for containing playing cards;

at least one card detecting sensor for detecting the presence of a card being drawn from the card housing; and

at least one card reader for reading card information from a code printed in UV-luminous ink on a surface of the card, wherein the card reader reads the code by detecting at least two rows of code elements arranged along at least one side on the surface of a card in a card drawing direction, wherein each of the rows of code elements are stacked inwardly from an edge of the card toward a center of the card and spaced apart from each other and wherein the same code is provided along opposed sides of the surface of the card in the card drawing direction.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the card reader reads a code that corresponds to at least one of a rank and a suit of the card.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the card reader reads a code that corresponds to a group to which the card belongs.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the card reader comprises at least two sensors for reading the code on the card.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 39, wherein a first sensor reads a first row of code elements of the code and a second sensor reads a second row of code elements of the code.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, further comprising a card guide for guiding a card through a path where the card reader reads information from the card.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41, wherein the card guide and the card reader are arranged such that the code on the card passes through the card reader when the card is slid with a side of the card being in contact with the card guide.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, further comprising:
a processor for determining the identity of the card based on the card information; and
a computer-readable storage medium for storing card information that is read by the card reader.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the processor controls the card reader to read the code when the at least one card detecting sensor detects the presence of a card.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the at least one card detecting sensor includes first and second card detecting sensors spaced apart in the card drawing direction

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the processor determines whether a card has passed through the card reader in a proper attitude based on signals from the at least one card detecting sensor indicating the presence or non-existence of a card.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 46, wherein the processor outputs a result of whether the card passed through the card reader in a proper attitude.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the processor outputs a result of the card information that is read by the card reader.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the processor outputs a result indicating whether fraud has been committed.